

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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72

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 STR-08 TRSE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 AS-01

/043 W

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R 161753Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2155

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 5426

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION GUATEMALA INFO QUITO, SAN SALVADOR, TEGUC-
IGALPA, MANAGUA, SAN JOSE, PANAMA, BOGOTA AUGUST 14 FROM
SECSTATE BEING PASSED FOR YOUR INFO/ACTION:

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 178011

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, GT

SUBJECT: BANANA EXPORT TAX

REFERENCE: GUATEMALA 4294

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES AMBASSADOR'S EFFORTS TO SOFTEN
GUATEMALAN ACTION REGARDING BANANA EXPORT TAX. TO COM-
PLEMENT YOUR EXCELLENT INITIAL RESPONSE, YOU MAY WISH TO
DRAW UPON FOLLOWING SHOULD APPROPRIATE OCCASION ARISE IN
DISCUSSIONS WITH GUATEMALAN OFFICIALS.

2. WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE THAT ECUADOR NOW COOPERATING WITH
UPEB AS ALLEGED BY MIN ECON PALOMO. ON THE CONTRARY,
INFORMATION OF EARLY JULY (QUITO'S 4147) INDICATES THAT
ECUADOR IS AT LEAST AS RELUCTANT AS BEFORE TO IMPOSE
EXPORT TAXES AND PLANS TO REDUCE TO ALREADY EXISTING
NOMINAL TAX. ECUADORAN EXPORTS TO U.S. INCREASED SIXTY
PERCENT IN VOLUME IN JUNE 1974 OVER JUNE 1973.

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3. REGARDING PRESSURES FROM OTHER C.A.S. WE HAVE RECEIVED REPORTS THAT PANAMANIAN HAVE BEEN EXERTING HEAVY PRESSURE ON CERTAIN CENTRAL AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS, BOTH OFFICIALLY AND UNOFFICIALLY, THROUGH MEDIA, ETC. GOP ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN BOLSTERING POSITION AND ENLISTING OTHER GOVERNMENTS' SUPPORT DURING CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS WITH UNITED BRANDS.

4. DEPARTMENT WOULD BE INTERESTED IN LEARNING EXTENT OF GOG COUNSULTATIONS WITH DEL MONTE. OUR EXPERIENCE IN OTHER COUNTRIES ON THIS PROBLEM INDICATES THAT LACK OF PRIOR DISCUSSIONS WITH COMPANIES HAS EXCERBATED DIFFICULTIES.

KISSINGER UNQUOTE
BREWSTER

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NNN

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30 JUN 2005

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